

## CLAIMS OF INVENTION

What is claimed is:

Sub A' → 1. An improved temporary guard rail system including a plurality of upright stanchions, each respective stanchion having an anchor bracket on the bottom end thereof and being adapted to be removably mounted to a building structure, said stanchions being connected by a plurality of vertically spaced upper and lower side rails and a toe board, said toe board being positioned adjacent the floor of said building structure, the improvements comprising:

means for rotatably connecting said side rails to said stanchions whereby each respective side rail may be rotated 360 degrees about the longitudinal axis of each respective stanchion in a horizontal plane and each respective side rail may be pivoted at varying angles in a vertical plane;

means for telescopically adjusting the length of each respective side rail and said toe board whereby said temporary guard rail system may be adapted to dimensional features of different buildings under construction; and

means for selectively extending the vertical height of said guard rail system to provide an increased measure of safety for employees performing specialized tasks requiring ladders and stilts adjacent thereto.

2. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 1 wherein a first threaded stud outwardly projects from a top end of said stanchions in substantially axial alignment therewith whereby an upper horizontal side rail may be rotatably mounted thereon at various angles.

3. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 1 wherein said upper side rail may be pivoted in a vertical plane at varying angles by use of an adapter means installed at a top end of said stanchion.

4. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 3 wherein said adapter means comprises a generally L-shaped swivel bracket disposed on said first

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threaded stud at said top end of said top stanchion, said L-shaped bracket including a long leg portion and a short leg portion being fixedly attached in perpendicular relation thereto, said bracket further including a swivel plate means being adapted for pivoting movement in a plane parallel to the plane defining said long leg portion, said swivel plate including a second threaded stud disposed in perpendicular relation to said axis of said stanchion whereby said upper side rails may be mounted thereto and pivoted in a vertical plane at varying angles for installation of said temporary guard rail system on inclines such as stairs.

5. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 4 wherein said swivel plate means includes a pair of said studs arranged in parallel, spaced-apart relation thereon, said studs being disposed in perpendicular relation to said axis of said stanchion whereby a pair of adjacent upper side rails may be mounted thereon and pivoted in a vertical plane at varying angles for installation of said temporary guard rail system on inclines such as stairs.

6. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 1 wherein said connecting means for said lower side rails comprises at least one rail support collar cooperating with an adapter means attached to each of said side rails, said at least one rail support collar being disposed about said stanchion and having at least one threaded stud outwardly extending therefrom and being perpendicular to a center axis of said collar whereby said adapter means may be fixedly mounted on said at least one threaded stud.

7. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 6 wherein said adapter means comprises a mid-rail, swivel bracket disposed on said at least one threaded stud extending from said rail support collar, said bracket including an elongated body member and further including a swivel plate being adapted for pivoting movement in a plane parallel to the plane defining said elongated

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body member, said swivel plate including a threaded stud mounted in perpendicular relation to said axis of said stanchion whereby said lower side rails may be mounted thereto and pivoted in a vertical plane at varying angles for installation of said temporary guard rail system on inclines such as flights of stairs.

8. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 7 wherein said swivel plate includes a pair of threaded studs arranged in generally parallel, spaced-apart relation whereby a pair of said lower side rails may be mounted thereto and pivoted in a vertical plane at varying angles for installation of said temporary guard rail system on inclines such as flights of stairs.

6/8. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 3 wherein a plurality of rail support collars are disposed about said stanchions at a pre-determined vertical location in an operative relationship between at least two rail stops.

7/10. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 1 wherein said extending means includes a plurality of extension posts being adapted for sliding engagement about the outside diameter of said stanchions at the upper ends thereof, said extension posts including connecting means so as to permit attachment of a plurality of vertically spaced side rails thereon, <sup>enabling</sup> whereby the vertical height of said temporary guard rail system <sup>to</sup> may be selectively extended to provide increased safety to employees performing specialized tasks adjacent thereto.

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8/11. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 1 wherein each respective stanchion is fixedly attached to a ground <sup>anchoring</sup> adapter plate means for installation directly onto a ground surface adjacent an excavation site.

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9/12. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 8 wherein said ground <sup>anchoring</sup> adapter plate means is fabricated from a heavy gauge, corrugated sheet metal

6 material that is adapted to receive a plurality of anchor pins therethrough for securing said ground <sup>anchoring</sup> plate means directly to the surface of the ground.

Q 10 13. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 1 wherein each respective stanchion is adapted for installation on a roof <sup>anchoring</sup> ~~adapter plate~~ means fabricated from corrugated sheet metal.

Q 11 14. The temporary guard rail system of Claim 10 13 wherein said roof <sup>anchoring</sup> ~~adapter plate~~ means is matched to the configuration of said corrugated sheet metal used in the construction of a roof.